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EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Alexander Falconer, M.B., C.M)

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(A. Smithson, C.R.S.I. M.S.I.A)

For the Year 1939.

EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Interim Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year,1939.

To the Chairman & Members
of the
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I propose to present for your consideration a short interim report for 1939.

My reason for curtailment of the report in its usual form is on account of the increased pressure of work in The Public Health Department and of the need of strict economy in the use of paper - all records of the year together with statistics to be supplied by the Registrar-General will be carefully preserved so that after the termination of the war a report could be made dealing fully with the period from the beginning of 1939, to the end of the last complete year, giving statistics for each year so that the annual records may be continuous and complete as far as practicable.

Deaths. During the year the number of deaths registered within the District was 59 (Male 27, Female 32) and the number of transferred deaths were 14, (Male 7, Female 7) - this gives a total of 73 deaths for the year, of the deaths 29 out of the total number occurred in people over 70 years of age.

The number of deaths from Cancer was 7 (Male 1, Female 6)
from tuberculosis 6 (Male 4, Female 2)
from pneumonia 1 and from diphtheria 1 -

3 deaths were notified by the Coroner - 1 found dead,
1 Suicide 1 Accident.

Births. Only 25 births were notified in the District and there is no record of births in Maternity Homes &c., which can be assessed as the average given for previous years.

One death of an infant under 1 year of age was recorded the cause being given as prematurely.

The Social Conditions of the area continued exactly as in previous years - Employment in the Cotton Sheds was moderately continuous throughout the year and dairy farming in outlying areas did not vary to any extent - There was no particular cause of sickness or invalidity during the year and conditions of employment did not have any prejudicial effect on health.

At the onset of War practically the whole of the male members of the Ambulance Corps were called up for the Naval Sick Berth Reserve.

This area was declared a reception area and at the beginning of September over 300 evacuees arrived in the District. These included unaccompanied school children with their teachers, Mothers and young children, and a group of crippled children with a small number of disabled old ladies. The crippled children were housed at Alder Hill School and the disabled ladies were

accommodated in the Church Institute at Kelbrook, until arrangements were made for accommodation more suitable or in the case of crippled females until they were gradually returned to their relatives.

The whole scheme of evacuation worked out smoothly at times presenting problems for the Billeting and Health Authorities.

The school children and Mothers and young children dropped into the normal life of the District and appeared to benefit generally but by the New Year the greater number had drifted back to their home town. A certain amount of Infectious Disease was brought into the area by the evacuees and several dirty heads, ringworm and impetigo cases were found, but the Sanitary Authorities managed to deal with them effectively and the conditions did not spread to any great extent amongst the inhabitants of the area

Infectious Diseases.

There was no special incidence of anyone infectious disease.

The number of cases notified were:-

2 Scarlet Fever 18 Diphtheria 1 Erysipelas 1 Pneumonia and 2 Whooping Cough - and of these 1 Scarlet Fever and 11 Diphtheria were removed to Isolation Hospital.

The Diphtheria cases were a continuation of the nine cases dealt with in November and December, 1938 - The type was mild but one child died after removal to hospital from Membranous Croup.

Immunization of children was offered during February and March, and 92 children were immunized at the various schools and Child Welfare Clinic. The material used was A.P.T for children up to 7 years of age and T.A.F. for older children and no reactions were found after the use of either material. One death occurred from Pneumonia.

Tuberculosis

No action was necessary under the various Public Health regulations dealing with tuberculosis. One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and six other forms of tuberculosis were notified during the year and six deaths were recorded 3 tuberculosis of lungs and 3 non-pulmonary.

Whooping Cough and Measles became notifiable towards the end of the year and two cases of Whooping Cough were notified.

Maternity & Child Welfare

Attendances at the Child Welfare Clinic were well up to average of other years and the Anti-natal Clinic was well attended. Maternity Services worked smoothly during the year and there were no deaths from Puerperal Causes. The prospect of a resident midwife was well advanced and likely to come into commission early in 1940. No case of Ophthalmia Neanatorum occurred.

Housing.

Very few new houses were built during the year and there were many empty houses. There was no shortage of housing accommodation and no instances of overcrowding.

Water. The supply of water had been both satisfactory and sufficient throughout the year. Samples of water for Bacteriological and chemical examination were taken.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. There were no new developments and the work of the Sanitary staff was carried out effeciently in all its Departments. The Sanitary Inspector states that there were no matters of outstanding importance to be dealt with throughout the year.

The milk supply has been well maintained throughout the year and the general conditions of cowsheds are satisfactory. During the year three new accredited milk producers were added to the five already in existence.

No other outstanding information on health and Sanitary Administration in your district is available for recording.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER FALCONER.

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1940.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EARBY.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

to the Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year ended the 31st December, 1939.

Sir,

I have very great pleasure in submitting a resume, on the work carried out in the Department during the year ended 31st December, 1939.

Apart from the additional work entailed as Chief Billeting Officer under the Government Evacuation Scheme and the duties in connection with Air Raid Precautions, there is nothing of outstanding importance to specially observe.

By the end of the year arrangements were well in hand for the establishment of a Salvage Scheme for the collection of waste and dormant materials.

Refuse and Night Soil Removal and Disposal was carried out as in previous years and approximately 1075 tons of refuse was collected and disposed off at a total cost of £383 - 6 - 10.

1,528 carcases were inspected during the year, a decrease of 40 on 1938; upon post-mortem examination, 1,487 carcases were found to be free from disease and were passed as fit for human consumption. All food found to be diseased or unsound was voluntarily surrendered by the owner and destroyed at the Council's Destructor.

SUMMARISED LIST OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Dwelling Houses:	
Public Health Act.	92.
Housing Act.	25.
Ash-pit conversions.	90.
Water Supply:	
Samples(for Plumbo-solvency and (Bacteriological examination)	9.
Gathering grounds.	3.
Milk Supply:	
Cowsheds and Dairies.	199.
Samples.	42.
Food Supply:	
Slaughterhouses.	148.
Butchers shops and Food Preparing Places.	50.
Bakehouses.	40.
Offensive Trades.	11.
Factories.	31.
Shops (Shops Act 1934).	4.
Rats and Mice Destruction.	7.
Verminous Premises.	7.
Infectious Diseases.	35.
Disinfections.	9.
Schools.	9.
Refuse Tips.	30.
Closet Conversions.	5.

Drain Testing and Tracing.	20.
Smoke Observations.	22.
Stables Middens.	1.
Miscellaneous visits and Inspections.	17.
Interviews with Owners, Agents and Contractors.	26.
Rent Collections.	47.
Complaints received.	33.
Informal Notices, Public Health Act.	8.
Statutory Notices. -do-	0.
Number of nuisances outstanding, 1st January 1939.	7.
Number of nuisances during 1939.	56.
Number of nuisances abated 1939,	63.
Number of nuisances outstanding 31st December, 1939.	0.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF REGISTERED & LICENCED PREMISES.

Milk Supply

Cowkeepers, Wholesale and Retail Purveyors.	7.
Cowkeepers and Retail Purveyors.	13.
Cowkeepers and Wholesalers.	16.
Cowkeepers and Retail Purveyors(also Butter).	1.
Cowkeepers and Wholesalers,(also Butter).	1.
Cowkeepers and Buttermakers.	8.
Retail Purveyors only.	8.
Licenced Accredited Producers.	8.
Accredited Licences granted by the Council.	3.
Pasteurised Licences granted by the Council.	6.

Meat and Other Food.

Butchers' shops.	9.
Slaughterhouses - Public	1.
Licenced.	3.
Bakehouses.	16.

Factories.

With Mechanical Power.	36.
Without Mechanical Power.	23.

Offensive Trades.

Rag & Bone Dealers.	2.
Fish Fryers.	5.

In conclusion, I desire to thank you for the help you have given to me; the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee; and heads of other Departments of the Council for their helpful co-operation at all times.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ALFRED SMITHSON,

Sanitary Inspector.
Cleansing Superintendent.